

CASMEC 2017

COMMON LEARNING CHARACTERISTICS: PLANNING INSTRUCTION THAT IS INCLUSIVE FOR ALL LEARNERS

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Introduction: 13 + 1

- What do we need to know?
- Examples
- Exploring commonalities

Common Characteristics: What do I need to know the learner?

- Cognition
- Communication
- Behavioral or Emotional Challenges
- Sensory Challenges
- Physical and Medical

Instructional Application: CG / CM / BE / P / S

- Allow a student to examine all new materials, equipment and instruments before using them. (kinesthetic, visual, aural)
- Allow students to tape record rehearsals or lectures and tape record a test or assignment.
- Allow students to respond to tests by recording, orally or in writing.
- Provide music or reading materials in advance of introducing new music.
- Use Velcro strips to help students hold small instruments. Sticks can be wrapped with foam or cloth to facilitate touch sensitivities.
- Code music or instruments with colors or symbols to help students remember notes or rhythms.
- Highlight or color specific areas of a page to help with focus.
- Check the IEP to individualize the quantity of homework assignments.

- Separate rhythmic and melodic assignments until special learners can combine the two.
- Limit the use of words not yet in the student's vocabulary. Be consistent with the terminology you use.
- Allow students to be partners with you in planning their own instructional accommodations.
- Provide study guides.
- Create a specific seating area that has a recognizable label so that the student knows and expects where they will be sitting. (chair, mat, square)
- Initially allow small amounts of time for participation. Gradually, increase time in small increments.

Individual Information

- ✓ Read the IEP or any other information that may be in the CUM
- ✓ Make notes about the student's strengths and weaknesses
- ✓ Interview the case carrier/special education teacher
- ✓ If possible, observe the student in another learning setting
- ✓ Sit in on an IEP meeting
- ✓ Interview previous teachers
- ✓ Interview the parents
- ✓ Interview the student

Conclusion

Adopt a Team Approach!
Go the Extra Yard!
All Children Can Learn!